

# ALEXANDER LOWE MCADAMS

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Rice University | 6100 Main St. MS-30 Houston, TX 77005 | [english.rice.edu](http://english.rice.edu) | [alexandermcadams.com](http://alexandermcadams.com)



## Education

*Doctor of Philosophy in English*, Rice University, expected May 2020

Dissertation: *Adoration of the Magi: Science, Secrets, and the Stars from Spenser to Milton*

*Master of Arts in English*, Rice University, May 2018

*Master of Arts in English*, University of Massachusetts Boston, June 2013

Thesis: “Feminine Endings: Female Onanism and Self-Injury in *The Faerie Queene*”

*Bachelor of Arts in English*, University of Mississippi, May 2010

Minor: Art/Graphic Design, coursework in journalism

## Research Interests

- Early Modern Literature
- History of Science
- Esotericism and Religion
- Epic Poetry
- Hermetic and Occult Philosophies
- Classical Latin and Neo-Latin Literature

## Teaching Experience

### As Instructor of Record

English 210: Survey of British Literature from Chaucer to 1800, Rice University, Fall 2017.

English 262G: The Art of Literature (Writing-Intensive Junior Seminar), University of Massachusetts Boston, 2 sections: Fall 2012 and Spring 2013.

### As Teaching Assistant

FWIS 117: Art in Place and Places for Art with Nonya Grenader, FAIA; Rice University, Fall 2017.

ENGL 300: Practices of Literary Study with Dr. Rosemary Hennessey, Rice University, Spring 2016.

ENGL 321: Love, Sex, and Death in the Renaissance with Dr. Joseph Campana, Rice University, Fall 2015.

ENGL 406: American Realism with Betsy Klimasmith, University of Massachusetts Boston, Spring 2012.

ENGL 293: Literature and Human Rights with Dr. Rajini Srikanth, University of Massachusetts Boston, Fall 2011.

## Selected Conference Presentations

“‘Knowledge of Man is as the Waters’: The Poetics of Seafaring in Francis Bacon’s Utopia.” *Renaissance Society of America 2019 annual meeting*. Toronto, Ontario. March 17–19, 2019 (abstract accepted).

“Alchemical Tinctures and the Secret Soul in *Paradise Lost*.” *Shakespeare Association of America 2018 annual meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. March 28–31, 2018.

“‘One Flesh, One Heart, One Soul’: Flesh, Desire, and Materialist Wandering in *Paradise Lost*.” *The Way of All Flesh*. CUNY Graduate Center. New York, NY. April 8, 2016.

“‘His will though free, Yet Mutable’: Materialist Wandering and the Lucretian Model of Desire in Milton’s *Paradise Lost*.” *EcoMaterialisms: Organizing Life and Matter*. University of California Irvine. May 15, 2015.

“The ‘Best Man’ for the Job: Bodies and Gendered Justice Borders in *The Faerie Queene*.” *Clash Zones: Identities in (R)evolution*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. April 5–6, 2013.

“The Pains of Allegory: Tracing Trauma in Courtly Elizabethan Discourse.” *Interdisciplinary Approaches to Historical Inquiry*. History Graduate Student Association at University of Massachusetts Boston. Boston, MA. March 9, 2013.

“Thinking and Linking: Teaching with Hypertext.” Co-presented with Professor Alex Mueller. *Center for Innovative Teaching and Educational Technology Conference*. University of Massachusetts Boston. Boston, MA. May 10, 2012.

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## Invited Presentations

Panelist for Roundtable on Interdisciplinary Research Methods. *Interdisciplinary Approaches to Historical Inquiry*. History Graduate Student Association at University of Massachusetts Boston. Boston, MA. March 9, 2013.

## Intensive Latin Programs

*Living Latin in Paris*. Paideia Institute for Humanistic Study. Paris, France, December 26, 2018–January 4, 2019 (applied).

*Living Latin in New York City*. Paideia Institute for Humanistic Study. New York City, February 26–28, 2018.

*Living Latin in Rome*. Paideia Institute for Humanistic Study. Rome, Italy, June–July 2017.

*Summer Latin Institute*. City University of New York Latin/Greek Institute. Brooklyn College, The Graduate Center, June–August 2016.

## Foreign Languages

*Latin*: Advanced Reading, Speaking at Working Proficiency

*Italian*: Elementary Reading and Speaking

## Funding and Fellowships

*Doctoral Fellowship*, Department of English, Rice University. Fall 2014–Present (\$21,500).

*Margaret C. Ostrum Summer Research Travel Grant*, Department of English, Rice University. June–July 2018 (\$1,000).

*Graduate Fellowship*, Rice Seminar: *Forgery and the Ancient: Art, Agency, and Authorship*, Rice University. Fall 2017–Spring 2018 (\$5,000).

*Competitive Travel Research*, Humanities Research Center, Rice University, March 2018 (\$500).

*Diana Hobby Editorial Fellowship*, *SEL Studies in English Literature 1500–1800*, Rice University. May 2015–Present (\$11,000).

*Teaching Assistantship – First-Year Writing Intensive Seminar*, Center for Written, Oral and Visual Communications, Rice University. Fall 2017 (\$3,000).

*Floyd L. Moreland Scholarship*, Friends of the Latin/Greek Institute, City University of New York. June–August 2016 (\$1,200).

*Competitive Summer Research Funding*, from multiple on-campus sources, including: Dean of Humanities, Humanities Research Center, and Department of English, Rice University. Summer 2016 (\$6,975).

*Communications Assistantship*, Office of Research & Sponsored Programs, University of Massachusetts Boston. Fall 2012–Spring 2013 (\$8,000).

*Teaching Assistantships*, Department of English, University of Massachusetts Boston. Fall 2011–Spring 2013 (\$12,000).

## Honors and Awards

Admitted to the Rare Books School course: *The Books of the Plays: Shakespeare & Print* (Instructor: David Scott Kastan), Beinecke Library, Yale University. June 2017 (could not accept).

*First Prize – Fondren Library Research Award*, Friends of Fondren Library, Rice University. January 2017 (\$500).

Second Place Design Award, Mississippi Press Association, *Better Newspaper* statewide competition (2011).

Third Place Design Award, Mississippi Press Association, *Better Newspaper* statewide competition (2010).

Artist Technical Grant (Summer 2009), *Yoknapatanpha Arts Council*, Oxford, MS (\$300).

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## Honors and Awards continued

Artwork featured in NASAD student exhibition (April 2009): Gallery 130 and Meek Hall; Oxford, MS.

Best College Arts & Life Writer, Southeastern Journalism Conference (April 2008); Oxford, MS.

Journalism Scholarship, Department of Journalism (NKA: Meek School of Journalism and New Media),  
University of Mississippi. Fall 2006–Spring 2009 (\$1,500).

Scholarship for Study Abroad in Sydney (Australia), Study Abroad Office, University of Mississippi.  
Summer 2007 (\$4,000).

Knight Ridder Young Journalist Scholarship, The Sun Herald; Biloxi, MS. Fall 2006–Spring 2007 (\$1,000).

## Academic Affiliations

Renaissance Society of America

Shakespeare Association of American

Modern Language Association

European Shakespeare Research Association

European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism

Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

New York Classical Club

## Related Professional Employment

*Copyeditor – Diana Hobby Editorial Fellow*

*SEL Studies in English Literature 1500–1800* academic journal, May 2015–Present.

*Academic Admissions and Writing Coach*

Self-employed Consultant, May 2013–Present.

*Interim Development Communications Coordinator*

Harvard Law School – Alumni Center, August–November 2013.

*Copyeditor, Communications Writer, Graphic Designer*

University of Massachusetts Boston – Research and Sponsored Programs, April 2012–May 2013.

*Copyeditor, Graphic Designer*

The Sun Herald – Production Desk (Biloxi, MS), June 2010–September 2011.

## Special Projects

“The Secret of Secrets: Pseudo-Aristotle, Pseudo-Science, and the Quest for Truth in Early Modern Europe,” *Forgery and the Ancient: Art, Agency, Authorship*, 2017–2018 Rice Seminar; Rice University.

“Robinson Crusoe and the World of Real Voyages of Exploration.” *The Imaginative Worlds of Daniel Defoe: Robinson Crusoe, Moll Flanders, and the Early Novel*. Central Library, Copley Square (Rare Books Room), February 25–August 30, 2013.

Artistic Director and Choreographer, *Celebration of the Spirit* dance showcase. Powerhouse Arts Center; Oxford, MS (April 2009). Specially funded by the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council.

## Academic Service

*Secretary*, Humanities Graduate Student Association. Rice University, July 2016–June 2017.

*Media and Communications Coordinator*, Graduate Student Symposium, Rice University, Fall 2016–Spring 2017.

*Graduate Student Representative*, Department of English. Rice University, June 2015–July 2016.

*Master’s Program Advisory Board*, University of Massachusetts Boston. Spring 2012–Fall 2013.

*Reader/Reviewer*, Breakwater Review literary magazine. University of Massachusetts Boston. Fall 2011.